

# Homonymy in Pompilidae: The case of *Balboana* Banks (Pompilinae, Priocheilini)

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## Abstract

The pompilid genus *Balboana* Banks, 1944 is preoccupied by Uvarov, 1939. A new replacement name, *Braunilla* Wasbauer and Kimsey is proposed and a species checklist included.

## Keywords

Balboa, Tettigoniidae, Rhyparochromidae

## Introduction

In 1925, Nathan Banks published the generic name *Balboa* for a spider wasp species from “America Meridionalis”. Later he became aware that *Balboa* already been used by Distant (1893) for a species of rhyparochromid bug (*Balboa germana* Distant), and he proposed the replacement name *Balboana* for the pompilid genus (Banks 1943). Unfortunately, we were recently informed that the name *Balboana* is itself a homonym, preoccupied by *Balboana* Uvarov, a tettigoniid orthopteran. Thus, we propose the replacement name *Braunilla* below to honor the discoverer of the homonymy, Dr. Holger Braun, Division Entomologia, Museo de La Plata, La Plata, Argentina.



Type repositories listed below include:

**CAMBRIDGE** Museum of Comparative Zoology, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA;  
**COPENHAGEN** Zoologisk Museum, Copenhagen, Denmark;  
**ITHACA** Cornell University Insect Collection, Ithaca, New York, USA;  
**LONDON** The Natural History Museum, London, England;  
**WASHINGTON** U. S. National Museum, Washington, D.C., USA.

## Taxonomy

### Genus *Braunilla* Wasbauer & Kimsey, new replacement name

*Balboa* Banks 1925: 336. Type species: *Priocnemis barbouri* Banks (= *Priocnemis auripennis* Fabricius).

*Balboana* Banks 1944: 102. Replacement name for *Balboa* Banks 1925. Nec Distant 1893 (*Balboa variabilis* Distant, Rhyparochromidae).

*Braunilla* Wasbauer & Kimsey. Replacement name for *Balboana* Banks, 1944. Nec Uvarov, 1939 (*Balboana tibialis* (Brunner von Wattenwyl, 1895, Tettigoniidae).

*Braunilla* is a small genus of Neotropical pompilids in the subfamily Pompilinae, tribe Priochilini (Waichert et al. 2015). The species are strongly sexually dimorphic and range in size from 5–23 mm in length. Ten species have been attributed to the genus, although only the Central America and Mexican species have been reviewed (Evans 1966). There is also some confusion about the author of the species, *Braunilla manifestata*. The species was originally published as *Agenia manifestata* by F. Smith, but was later attributed to Banks by Fernández (2000).

Nothing is known about the biology of any of the species in the genus. Evans (1968) suggested they might be parasites of *Priochilus* because the ranges of the two genera are coincident and *Braunilla* females have the compressed apical metasomal sternum typical of some parasitic pompilids.

### Checklist of *Braunilla* species

*Braunilla auripennis* (Fabricius). Panama, Guyana.

*Pompilus auripennis* Fabricius 1804: 192. Syntype females; America Meridionalis (=South America) (COPENHAGEN).

*Pompilus chiriquensis* Cameron 1893: 201. Holotype female; Panama: Bugaba (LONDON). Synonymized by Evans 1966.

*Pompilus moorei* Cameron 1912: 424. Holotype female; British Guyana: Demerara (LONDON). Synonymized by Banks 1944.

*Procnemis* (*Balboa*) *barbouri* Banks 1925: 333. Holotype female; Panama (CAMBRIDGE). Synonymized by Evans 1966.



*Braunilla cameroni* (Evans). Costa Rica, Panama.

*Balboana cameroni* Evans 1966: 179. Holotype male; Costa Rica: Turrialba (WASHINGTON).

*Braunilla elegans* (Banks). Bolivia.

*Balboana elegans* Banks 1946: 509. Holotype female; Bolivia: Sara Prov., Buenavista (CAMBRIDGE).

*Braunilla fenestralis* (Banks). Bolivia?

*Balboana fenestralis* Banks 1946: 508. Holotype female; Bolivia: Santa Cruz, Buenavista (ITHACA).

*Braunilla fulvipes* (Banks). Guyana.

*Balboana fulvipes* Banks 1944; Holotype female; Guyana: Cuyni-Mazaruni, Kartabo (CAMBRIDGE).

*Braunilla manifestata* (F. Smith). northern South America.

*Agenia manifestata* F. Smith 1866: 264. Type: "The Amazons: Tunantius" (LONDON).

*Balboana manifestata* Banks, 1944. Incorrectly attributed to Banks (Fernández 2000). Nomen nudum.

*Braunilla nayaritana* (Evans). Mexico.

*Balboana nayaritana* Evans 1966: 181. Holotype female; Mexico: Nayarit, Vic. Compostela (CAMBRIDGE).

*Braunilla nigrina* Banks. Brazil.

*Balboana nigrina* Banks 1946: 507. Holotype female; Brazil: Santa Catarina, Nova Teutonia (CAMBRIDGE).

*Braunilla pulchella* (Evans). Panama.

*Balboana pulchella* Evans 1966: 182. Holotype female; Panama: Barro Colorado Is. (WASHINGTON).

*Braunilla tarsalis* (Cameron). Guatemala.

*Pseudagenia tarsalis* Cameron 1897: 372. Holotype female; Guatemala: Purula, Vera Paz (LONDON?).

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